

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

141

Yugoslavia: 125th Infantry Brigade at Kicevo

50X1-HUM

1. History of unit

The change of the 50th Brigade into the 125th Brigade took place November-December 1959. The headquarters remained in Kicevo, [REDACTED]

50X1-HUM

and the 125th Brigade was dependant on the headquarters of Bičolj sector, the same as the 50th Brigade.

2. Quarters

Brigade headquarters and infirmary are in a building on Titova Ulica, the main street of the city.

The 1st company and the 76mm A T Battery are in an [REDACTED]

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

old barracks located on a western edge of the city.

The other parts of the ~~B~~rigade are in an old barracks area located 200-300 meters north of Kicevo.

3. Subordination

The ~~B~~rigade is under the ~~Command~~ of the Bitolj Sector.

50X1-HUM

5. Strength

About 1500 men.

6. Table of Organization

Brigade Headquarters

Services squad

Military Police Platoon

QBR Platoon

Flame Thrower Detachment

Technical-Services Company

Combat and Bridge Engineer^S~~A~~ Company

Reconnaissance Company

Automatic Weapons Company

Signal Company

Artillery Group

Armored Group

These ~~too~~ constitute the artillery of the Brigade

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

(it is very improbable that the Artillery belongs to 125th Birgade.)

Five Rifle Companies.

The table of organization of the former 50th Birgade was the following:

Birgade Headquarters

Combat and Bridge Engineers Company

Signal Company

Reconnaissance Company

Technical-Services Company

"Mountain Artillery" group:

120-mm mortar battery

75-mm gun battery

76-mm AT gun battery

57-mm recoilless gun battery

The Group was autonomous, horse-drawn

50X1-HUM

4 Rifle Battalions[sic], each battalion has:

1 Signal Platoon

1 Combat Engineer Platoon

3 Rifle Companies, each with 2 Platoons

Each platoon has 3 Squads of about 10 men.

1 Support Weapons Company with 4 Platoons:

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

76-mm (?) recoilless rifles

82-mm mortar platoon

AT Platoon with Bazookas (R.P.)

Machine Gun Platoon with Schartz automatic rifles

1 Mixed Battery with 3 Sections:

120-mm mortar section

57-mm recoilless guns

75-mm or 76-mm guns

7. Officers

Known Headquarters Officers:

CO of 125th Brigade: Colonel Ljubomir NAPRTA; came from Belgrade where he taught tactics (?) at the war school.

Deputy CO and Adjutant: Lt Col. Srecko STAGLISIC; he was head of the Services section of the 50th Birgade until November 1959.

Head of the KOS Office: Capt. First Class Miroslav TOROVIC; formerly head of the KOS of the 50th Birgade.

CO of the Birgade Artillery: Lt. Col. KATALINIC; he heads the same post with the 50th Birgade.

CO of the Services Office: Lt. Col. Ljubomir VUKOTIC; assigned to the 125th Birgade in December 1959:

50X1-HUM

Deputy CO of Services Office: Major Ilija GICENSKI; he heads the same post in the 50th Birgade.

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CO of the Political Office: Lt. Col SKRK, a Slovenian;
he heads the same post with the 50th Birgade.

CO of the Personnel Office: Lt. Col GALIC; heads the
same post in the 50th Birgade.

CO of the Administration Office: Captian Milan BASRAK;
heads the same post in the 50th Birgade.

Custodial Officer: Captain MILUTINOVIC; came from
Bitolj in November 1959.

Chief Medical Officer: Lt. LUKIC (~~medical~~ ^{corps}). He
was assigned to the Birgade in May 1960 as a replacement
for Captain First Class PIUSKOVIC who was transferred to
another headquarters.

Officers from the Bitolj Sector assigned to Headquarters of
the 125th Birgade.

Captain First Class BARG; a custodial officer from
unidentified supply points of the Sector; he ~~formerly~~ ^{formerly}
head the same duties with the 50th Birgade.

Captain First Class Milan VOJNOVIC; deputy Custodial
Officer of unidentified supply point of the Sector; he
was deputy CO of the First Batallion of the 50th Birgade
until November 1959.

Officers formerly on duty with the 50th Birgade and
125th Birgade and transferred to other locations between
November 1959 and September 1960.

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

Colonel Drago DUKIC; former CO of 50th Birgade;
transferred November 1959 to the Military Academy of Belgrade.

Lt. Col. Busan VLAJESEVIC; former Deputy CO of the
50th Birgade; transferred November 1959 to the Military
Academy of Belgrade.

Captain First Class Ranko CEPIC; formerly Deputy CO
of the Political Office of the 50th Birgade and transferred
to Bitolj November 1959.

Major Milan KOSANOVIC; former CO of the first Batallion
of the 50th Birgade transferred to the Bitolj Sector
November 1959.

Captain First Class Velko PIUSKOVIC (Medical Corps)

Captain First Class Lovre VLAHOVIC; CO of the 76-mm
Battery of the 125th Birgade (former CO of the Mixed Battery
of the First Batallion of the 50th Birgade) transferred
September 1960 to Leskovac.

Captain Milorad VELICKOVIC; Deputy CO of the 76-mm
Battery of 125th Birgade transferred 1960 to Leskovac.

First Lt. Valentin RAKOVIC; former CO of the Signal
Company of the 50th Birgade transferred November 1959 to
the Headquarters of the Bitolj Sector; he has been placed in
command of the Signal Platoon of the Sector Headquarters.

8. Units of the 125th Birgade

Services Squad: assigned to Birgade Headquarters;

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL
Squad Leader: NCO

Chauffeur of the Birgade CO

Messenger of the Birgade Headquarters

Messenger of the Troops at the barracks

Clerk of the Personnel Office

Two men assigned to the post office

Two cooks for meals of the Services Squad and the Military Police Platoon.

Military Police Platoon: Assigned to the 125th Birgade in November 1959 (it did not exist in the 50th Birgade.)

It is commanded by an NCO and has the strength of about 30.

The uniforms are the same as the infantry and there is no special insignia or identification. They wear sam brown belts with white straps and high shoes with rubber soles.

On normal patrol duty they carry pistols; and submachine guns while on training. The platoon came as a unit from the Military Police training center at Pancevo.

CBR Platoon

Some of the members belong to the 50th Birgade and some came from Krusevac; 30 men under NCO.

Flame Thrower Detachment

This has the strength of about a platoon and it an

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

integral part of the Reconnaissance Company. In the event that it is used, the detachment will be divided among the three platoons of Reconnaissance Company. The 50th Birgade did not have such a detachment and there are no details upon its organization.

The detachment has flame throwers of Yugoslav manufacture, carried on the back, and with a capacity of about 15 liters.

50X1-HUM

Technical Services Company

This has a strength of about 120 men and is commanded by Captain First Class Dragomir OSEGOVIC who was the CO of the same company in the former 50th Birgade.

It has 25-30 trucks of various makes (GMC, DOGE, PRAHA, etc.) and a 7-ton mobile shop assigned to the 125th Birgade when it was formed. This unit of the former 50th Birgade did not have mobile shop.

Combat and Bridge Engineer Company

This 125-man company is the same as that of the 50th Birgade. There are four platoons; two Combat Engineer platoons and two Bridge Engineer platoons.

Reconnaissance Company

This is the same company of the former 50th Birgade and apparently there have been no changes.

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

the strength but knows that it is divided into 3 platoons.

A group of the Flamethrower Detachment maybe attached to each group if needed.

Automatic Weapons Company

This unit did not exist in the former 50th Birgade and has been formed by personnel drawn from all the units of that birgade when it was transformed into the 125th Birgade. All members of this company have automatic weapons and have the rank Pfc. The strength is 110-120 men and the weapons are exclusively Yugoslav submachines guns model 1949 and model 1953.

Signal Company

This is the same unit which was in a former 50th Birgade. There have probably been no changes in its structure but there are reports that the equipment has been modernized.

It has a strength of about 100 men and is divided into 3 platoons: a radio, telephone, and Linesmen.

Brigade Artillery (Artillery Battalion and Armored Battalion)

Until November 1949, the "Artillery Battalion" was called the "Mountain Artillery Battalion" and, although "assigned" to the 50th Birgade and lodged in the same barracks at Kacevo, was autonomous

50X1-HUM

when the 50th Birgade was transformed into the 125th Birgade, the unit passed unchanged

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

to the new brigade and reportedly formed with the "Armored Battalion" (new formed) the "Artillery of the 125th Brigade" under the orders of Lt. Col. KAPALINIC.

However [redacted] the "Armored Battalion"

50X1-HUM

is directly under the headquarters of the Bitolj Sector and therefore the reported formation is dubious. [redacted]

50X1-HUM

[redacted] it is more probable that the "Armored Battalion" is dependant on the Bitolj Sector and has been sent to Kicevo for other reasons. Lt. Col. KAPALINIC has probably been assigned the duty of training the battalion.

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

Artillery Battalion

The CO is a major; the Deputy CO is major DANILO BROLE former Deputy CO of the "Autonomous Mountain Battalion".

There are four batteries: the 120-mm Mortar Battery, the 75-mm Gun Battery, the 76-mm AT Gun Battery (at Lebar), and the 57-mm Recoiless Gun Battery. [redacted]

50X1-HUM

The guns are drawn by auto trucks; prior to assignment to the 125th Brigade, the Battalion used

-10-

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

horses to tow the guns.

Armored Battalion

The Battalion has a tank unit with T-34 and Shermann tanks, a unit with 90-mm self-propelled guns, scout car unit, and an AT unit with "R.B." (bazookas) and "TRONBLON" [trombone?] (ENERGA).

The Battalion was formed at Kicevo in November 1959 with personnel and weapons arriving from unidentified locations.

Rifle Companies (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th) all are similar in strength, organization, and weapons.

First Company (at Bevar)

CO: Captain First Class Josiv GOLJA; came from Sarajevo December 1959.

Deputy CO and CO of the first platoon: Captain George MRVOSEVIC; formerly on duty with a battalion of the 50th Brigade.

Strength is about the 110 men and divided into four platoons. The platoons consists of three Rifle Platoons and one Weapons Platoon. Each platoon has three squads.

The rifle squads have two Schartz automatic rifles, three submachine guns, and four-five Mauser standard repeating rifles. The Weapons Platoon has one squad with Schartz automatic rifles (two weapons), a 82-mm mortar squad (two

-11-

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

or three pieces in time of peace, and a Bazooka squad (three pieces in peace).

Other Company Officers:

CO second Platoon: First Lt. Dragan MIZKOVSKI

CO of the Weapons Platoon: Captain Dominil LIPOVSEK

Fourth Company

CO: Captain First Class TUNDEROVSKI; formerly with the 50th Brigade.

9. Brigade Services

Medical: First Lt. LUKIC

Infirmary: in the building with the Brigade Headquarters and equipped for first aid and minor illness.

Vehicle Repair Shop: in the barracks area of the Brigade units at Kicevo. The shop handles second echelon repairs; Major repairs and general overhauls are done Nis or Skoblje.

Vehicles: about 60 PRAHA, GMC, DOGE trucks divided among Brigade units.

50X1-HUM